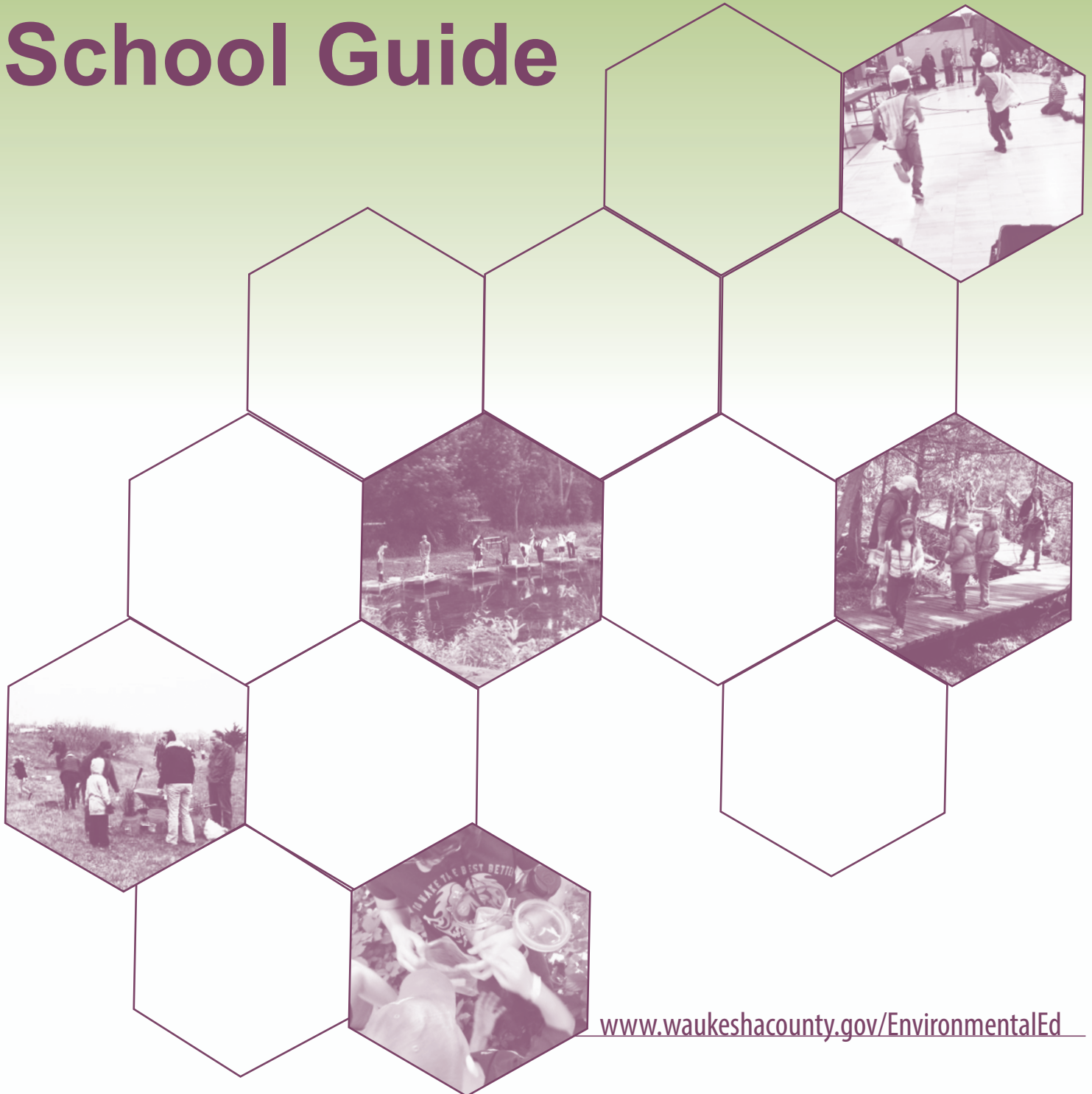




Waukesha County  
Department of  
Parks and Land Use

2017-2018 School Year

# Waukesha County Environmental Education School Guide



[www.waukeshacounty.gov/EnvironmentalEd](http://www.waukeshacounty.gov/EnvironmentalEd)

# Waukesha County Environmental Education School Guide



**W**aukesha County, through its Department of Parks and Land Use, continues to foster the protection, wise use, enhancement, and enjoyment of the county's cultural and natural resources, and the health of its citizens. We have created a school guide of environmental education opportunities to help engage teachers, students and visitors in achieving this objective.

The environmental education opportunities presented in this school guide seek to:

- Increase the amount of material recycled from households and businesses to reduce taxpayer cost.
- Create opportunities for citizens to explore the outstanding natural resources in the Waukesha County Park System.
- Collaborate with School Districts in the county to offer a variety of science-based educational opportunities to meet curriculum requirements and enhance the quality of life in the county.
- Protect and enhance the quality of the county's lakes and streams by informing citizens on how property management decisions impact water quality.
- Protect the quantity and quality of the groundwater resources in the county by promoting water conservation and groundwater infiltration.

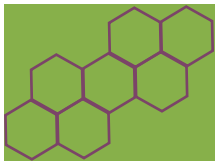
I hope you take part in the opportunities available throughout this school guide and help us keep Waukesha County a great place to live, work and play.

Paul Farrow,

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink that reads "Paul".

Waukesha County Executive





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All programs are available at  
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**S14 W28167 Madison Street, Waukesha, WI 53188**  
unless otherwise noted and subject to change without notice.

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# Program Policies & Fees

## RETZER NATURE CENTER

Experience your choice of programs in a single visit! Whether it is land, water, resource management or outer space, get double the experience in one place! Need help planning your field trip experience? Our staff is ready to help create a program package to suit your needs.

### Field Trips

**Retzer Nature Center – S14 W28167 Madison St., Waukesha • 262.970.6680**

Reservations for 2018 programs begin 9/1/2017

A 21 day lead-time is required to book all programs. Since your program has been specifically booked for your group, fees must be paid 21 days before the program date. If booking a program 21 days or less from the program date, payment is due at the time of booking. We accept credit card payments over the phone.

#### Program Fees:

1-hour program:  
\$2.25 per student  
(Minimum of 10 students)

1.5-hour program:  
\$3.50 per student  
(Minimum of 10 students)

2-hour program:  
\$4.50 per student  
(Minimum of 10 students)

#### Chaperones (attend free):

10 students, 2 chaperones  
11-20 students, 3 chaperones  
21-30 students, 4 chaperones, etc.

### Pre-Packaged Program Field Trips

#### Program Fee:

\$2.25 per student  
(Minimum of 10 students)

### At-School

#### Program Fee:

1-hour program: \$75  
(including travel fee -  
maximum of 30 students)

1.5-hour program: \$110  
(including travel fee -  
maximum of 30 students)

#### **Retzer Nature Center's Cancellation Policy**

*If payment is not received at least 21 days in advanced, the program will be cancelled. If you cancel a program within 21 days of the program date, we reserve the right to forfeit the program fee or issue a credit instead of a refund. Credit must be redeemed within the same calendar year unless otherwise noted.*

## PLANETARIUM

The planetarium is a multi-media sky and space theater located inside Retzer Nature Center. The instruments, a Spitz 512 Star Projector and a high definition, full-dome video projection system, project an image of the day or night sky on the underside of a dome-shaped ceiling.

The Planetarium serves as a resource of current trends in astronomy for students, teachers and the community.

### Field Trips

**Charles Z. Horwitz Planetarium – S14 W28167 Madison St., Waukesha • 262.970.6680**

Reservations for 2018 programs begin 9/1/2017

Planetarium presentations include a brief tour of the current evening sky and a "feature" program of your choice. The planetarium equipment is being upgraded to full-dome digital video. All Planetarium shows can be booked in a combination with any program held at Retzer Nature Center. A 21 day lead-time is required.

**One teacher or chaperone is admitted free per 25 students. Maximum of 90 students per show.**

#### Program Fees:

Full-Length Show Base Fee:  
\$30 up to 10 students, then  
\$3 per person thereafter

Extended Show Base Fee:  
\$50 up to 10 students, then  
\$5 per person thereafter

When you extend your planetarium show, add one of the following options:  
1. Make & Take astronomy project  
2. Add a second "Feature" program

#### **Charles Z. Horwitz Planetarium Cancellation Policy**

*If payment is not received at least 21 days in advanced, the program will be cancelled. If you cancel a program within 21 days of the program date, we reserve the right to forfeit the program fee, or issue a credit instead of a refund. Credit must be redeemed within the same calendar year unless otherwise noted.*

## UW - EXTENSION

#### At-School Program Fee:

\$75 per 1 hour program (includes mileage charge -  
maximum of 30 students)

## ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH, WATER RESOURCES, RECYCLING

All programs are free.



# Professional Development Opportunities

## 3RD ANNUAL WAUKESHA COUNTY LAND CONSERVATION TEACHER TOUR

**Wednesday, July 19, 9am-3pm**

**Location:** Tour leaves from Retzer Nature Center, S14 W28167 Madison St., Waukesha

**Fee:** Free

**Limit:** 30 teachers from Waukesha County public / private elementary & secondary schools | First come, first served

Broaden your background knowledge of the surrounding communities! Join our Land Resources Division staff for an enlightening tour with accompanying activities. A Certificate of Completion will be provided.

It's An Invasion! Invasive Aquatic and Land Species in Waukesha County Tour highlights include:

- Pontoon boat activity on local lake
- Magee Elementary Goat Project
- Carroll University Prairie Springs Field Station
- Retzer Nature Center Invasive Control
- Tour of new Retzer Recycling and Water exhibit area

Coach bus travel & box lunch included



Call Meribeth at 262.896.8317 or e-mail [msullivan@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:msullivan@waukeshacounty.gov) for more information and to register.

## Project WET Water Education for Teachers

### PROJECT WET TRAINING SESSION

**Wednesday, August 16, 9am-3pm**

**Location:** Retzer Nature Center, S14 W28167 Madison St., Waukesha

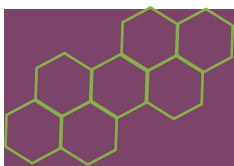
**Fee:** \$30.00

Project WET (Water Education for Teachers) is a hands-on activity designed and tested by teachers. Best of all, Project WET is fun! In this workshop, we will focus on stormwater and how it impacts the environment. Spend a day at Retzer Nature Center:

- Learning how to use the hands-on activities, including water quality testing and macro-invertebrate sampling
- Sharing ideas and tips with other teachers
- Learning about local program resources

The \$30.00 workshop fee covers all program materials, morning break and beverages, the project WET guidebook and lunch. Call 262.896.8305 with questions.

Register online at [waukeshacountyparks.com](http://waukeshacountyparks.com) by August 9.



# Grade 4K

## Retzer Nature Center Programs

To book the following Retzer Nature Center Programs, call 262.970.6680. For program fees, see page 5.

### **NATURE STORYTIME HIKE**

*Seasonal Program Offerings Below*

*1 hour (1.5 hours with craft added)*

*Also available as an At-School Program*

This program is all about reading and roaming! Teachers can select a seasonal program, then our naturalists will share a story and conduct an outdoor nature hike designed to complement the season and the story.

### **Fall Programs**

Trees, Seeds, Nuts and Leaves

Life in a Shell (turtles, beetles, snails, eggs & nuts)

Hike & Seek - Camouflage

Insect Investigation

### **Winter Programs**

*Add snowshoes (weather dependent) for additional \$2.75 per person, 30 students maximum.*

Sleepy Time (Hibernation)

Footprints in the Snow

### **Spring Programs**

Spring has Sprung

Things with Wings

Pond Adventure (30 students maximum)

Over and Under the Soil

### **POND EXPLORATION**

*Available May-June*

*1.5 hours*

*30 students maximum*

Explore the Retzer Pond and meet cool creatures who call the pond muck home. Learn about the adaptations and features they possess to live in this watery world.

### **INSECT INVESTIGATION**

*Available September-October & May-June*

*1.5 hours*

Join the naturalists as we use sweep nets in the meadow, roll logs in the forest, and flip over rocks in search of insects. We will discover these six legged friend's adaptations that help them survive in their habitats.

### **WEB OF LIFE**

*1 hour*

Explore the grounds of Retzer during this seasonally focused program as we observe relationships between different plants and animals within their habitats. Make connections between living things within a common ecosystem.

### **ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS (INDOOR)**

*1 hour (1.5 hours with Create-a-Critter added)*

*Also available as an At-School Program*

Enjoy a visit from the Retzer teaching animals! See how an animal's physical and behavioral traits can help it to survive as we explore the concepts of habitat and adaptation. You can add on a craft where students will create a critter with unique traits to illustrate how their critter will function and survive in its habitat.

### **NATURE DISCOVERY**

*1.5 hours (2 hours with nature collage added)*

Using our powers of observation and sensory skills, we will have an in-depth scavenger experience collecting the natural treasures of the season. Naturalists will modify the exploration according to the season.

### **AVIAN ADVENTURE**

*1.5 hour (2 hours with owl pellet dissection added – add \$3/pellet)*

*Also available as an At-School Program*

Decipher these feathered flyers from head-to-toe as we uncover their amazing adaptations and unique behavior. A visit from our teaching bird and hands-on objects will assist in this exploration. Join our naturalists as we search for evidence of birds in their habitats.

### **DISCOVER ART IN NATURE**

*Available September-November & March-June*

*1.5 hours*

*30 students maximum*

Make connections between the natural world and art. Study patterns, colors, shapes and textures all around us and create an art project using a variety of media appropriate for the season.

### **SENSORY ADVENTURE**

*1.5 hours*

*Add snowshoes (weather dependent) for additional \$2.75 per person, 30 students maximum.*

Our natural world comes in many different sizes, shapes, colors, textures, odors, sounds and tastes. Explore your senses while discovering the diversity in nature. Depending on the season, students may find themselves collecting colorful leaves during fall, smelling and touching plants in the Children's Garden, or snowshoeing in a winter wonderland.

## Planetarium Programs

To book the following Retzer Nature Center Programs, call 262.970.6680. For program fees, see page 5.

### THE SKIES OVER MR. ROGER'S NEIGHBORHOOD

45 minutes

This program uses the scenes and characters from the famous television show "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood" to introduce young students to the wonders of the day and night sky. A great sky and space experience.

### THE SKY TONIGHT

1 hour

Reach up and paint the sky blue, make a rainbow, sing a song about space, and clap to the music as we all meet Joe Star, Marsha Moon, and Mike Meteor.

## Recycling Programs

To book the following Recycling programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [recycling@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:recycling@waukeshacounty.gov). All Recycling programs are free.

### REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

30 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

Learn about the three Rs, what to recycle, and what recyclables become. See inside a landfill. Meet some of Recycle Raccoon's recyclable friends!

Optional: A visit from Recycle Raccoon mascot.

### WIGGLE WITH WORMS

30 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

Observe and examine nature's recyclers-worms! Discover how worm bodies work and how they help nature. Play a "Feed the Worm" game, jump like a Jumping Worm, and observe live worms with magnifiers. Take home your own "worm" to care for!

### ROT IS HOT: COMPOSTING

30 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

Hear a story called Slop! Play a "What Goes In?" game and learn the four things that make compost happen! Observe compost critters up close with magnifiers when seasonally available in spring/fall.



## UW-Extension Programs

To book the following UW-Extension programs, call 262.548.7775. For program fees, see page 5.

### DIG INTO GARDENING, NUTRITION & READING

Available April through September

60 minutes

Available At-School **only**

25 students maximum

Lessons can include horticulture activities, creating a small terrarium, reading garden-themed or nutrition-themed stories, preparing a healthy snack. These options can be selected ala carte for a tailored program that can enhance core curriculum themes and lessons.







# Grades K-1

## Retzer Nature Center Programs

To book the following Retzer Nature Center programs, call 262.970.6680. For program fees, see page 5.

### **NATURE STORYTIME HIKE**

*Seasonal Program Offerings Below*

*1 hour (1.5 hours with craft added)*

*Also available as an At-School Program*

This program is about reading and roaming! Teachers select a seasonal program, then our naturalists share a story and conduct an outdoor nature hike designed to complement the season and the story.

#### Fall Programs

Trees, Seeds, Nuts and Leaves

Life in a Shell (turtles, beetles, snails, eggs & nuts)

Hike & Seek - Camouflage

Insect Investigation

#### Winter Programs

*Add snowshoes (weather dependent) for an additional \$2.75 per person, 30 students maximum.*

Sleepy Time (Hibernation)

Footprints in the Snow

#### Spring Programs

Spring has Sprung

Things with Wings

Pond Adventure (30 students maximum)

Over and Under the Soil

### **POND EXPLORATION**

*Available May-June*

*1.5 hours*

*30 students maximum*

Explore the Retzer Pond and meet creatures who call the pond muck home. Learn about the adaptations and features they possess to live in this watery world.

### **INSECT INVESTIGATION**

*Available September-October & May-June*

*1.5 hours*

Join the naturalists as we use sweep nets in the meadow, roll logs in the forest, and flip over rocks in search of insects. We will learn about adaptations that help insects survive.

### **WEB OF LIFE**

*1 hour*

Explore the grounds of Retzer during this seasonally focused program as we observe relationships between different plants and animals and their habitats. Make physical connections between living things within a common ecosystem and watch as a web of life emerges.

### **ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS (INDOOR)**

*1 hour (1.5 hours with Create-a-Critter added)*

*Also available as an At-School Program*

Enjoy a visit from the Retzer teaching animals! See how an animal's physical and behavioral traits can help it to survive as we explore the concepts of habitat and adaptation. You can add on a craft where students will create a critter with unique traits to illustrate how their critter will function and survive in its habitat.

### **NATURE DISCOVERY**

*1.5 hours (2 hours with nature collage added)*

Using our powers of observation and sensory skills, we will have an in-depth scavenger experience collecting the natural treasures of the season. Naturalists will modify the exploration according to the season.

### **AVIAN ADVENTURE**

*1.5 hour (2 hours with owl pellet dissection – add \$3/ pellet)*

*Also available as an At-School Program*

Discover these feathered flyers from head to tail as we examine their adaptations and unique habits. A visit from our teaching bird and hands-on objects will assist in this exploration. Join our naturalists as we search for evidence of birds in their habitats.

### **DISCOVER ART IN NATURE**

*Available September-November & March-June*

*1.5 hours*

*30 students maximum*

Make connections between the natural world and art. Study patterns, colors, shapes and textures all around us and create an art project using a variety of media appropriate for the season.

### **SENSORY ADVENTURE**

*1.5 hours*

*Add snowshoes (weather dependent) for additional \$2.75 per person, 30 students maximum*

Our natural world comes in many different sizes, shapes, colors, textures, odors, sounds and tastes. Explore your senses while discovering the natural diversity at Retzer. Depending on the season, students may find themselves collecting colorful leaves during fall, smelling and touching plants in the Children's Garden, or snowshoeing through the winter wonderland.

## Planetarium Programs

To book the following Retzer Nature Center Programs, call 262.970.6680. For program fees, see page 5.

### THE SKIES OVER MR. ROGER'S

#### NEIGHBORHOOD

45 minutes

This program uses the scenes and characters from the famous television show "Mr. Rogers' Neighborhood" to introduce young students to the wonders of the day and night sky. A great sky and space experience.

### THE SKY TONIGHT

1 hour

Reach up and paint the sky blue, make a rainbow, sing a song about space, and clap to the music as we all meet Joe Star, Marsha Moon, and Mike Meteor.

### OUR PLACE IN SPACE

1 hour

This award-winning, participatory children's planetarium show introduces jungle animals and a space crossword puzzle to unravel the wonders and the mysteries of the universe.

## Recycling Programs

To book the following Recycling programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [recycling@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:recycling@waukeshacounty.gov). All Recycling programs are free.

### REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

30 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

Learn about the three Rs, what to recycle, and what recyclables become. See inside a landfill. Meet some of Recycle Raccoon's recyclable friends!

Optional: A visit from Recycle Raccoon mascot.

### PAPERMAKING

45 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

Where does paper go after putting it in the recycling cart, and how does it get turned into new paper? Learn the process and then make paper right in the classroom. Students will create their own paper shape to take home.

### RECYCLING ASSEMBLY

45 minutes

At-School Program **only**

Our high-energy recycling assemblies are sure to rev up your students to recycle more and recycle right! A lively recycling relay race along with group games and PowerPoint images have been a hit! Available as an all school assembly for K-5.

### ROT IS HOT: COMPOSTING

30 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

Hear a story called Slop! Play a "What Goes In?" game and learn the four things that make compost happen! Observe compost critters up close with magnifiers when seasonally available in spring/fall.

### WIGGLE WITH WORMS

30 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

Observe and examine nature's recyclers-worms! Discover how worm bodies work and how they help nature. Play a "Feed the Worm" game, jump like a Jumping Worm, and observe live worms with magnifiers. Take home your own "worm" to care for!



## Environmental Health Program

To book the following Environmental Health programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov). All Environmental Health programs are free.

### ANIMAL BITE PREVENTION

50 minutes

At-School Program **only**

Find out about animal awareness, animal body language, and making wise choices while interacting with animals. Electricity and a clear wall for projection are required for this program.

## UW-Extension Programs

To book the following UW-Extension programs, call 262.548.7775. For program fees, see page 5.

### **DIG INTO GARDENING, NUTRITION & READING**

Available April through September

60 minutes | \$75 per 60 minutes (includes mileage charge.)

25 students maximum

At-School Program **only**

Lessons can include horticulture activities, creating a small terrarium, reading garden-themed or nutrition-themed stories, preparing a healthy snack. These options can be selected ala carte for a tailored program that can enhance core curriculum themes and lessons.

GRADES K-1



# Grades 2-3

## Retzer Nature Center Programs

To book the following Retzer Nature Center programs, call 262.970.6680. For program fees, see page 5.

### **INSECT INVESTIGATION**

September-October & May-June

1.5 hours

Join the naturalists as we use sweep nets in the meadow, roll logs in the forest, and flip over rocks in search of insects. We will investigate their many adaptations that help support their survival, growth, behavior and reproduction. We will discuss their important roles in the environment, such as pollination.

### **OVER AND UNDER THE SOIL**

September-October & April-June

1.5 hours

Explore the diverse ecosystems at Retzer and understand how the soils under the ground support the unique plant communities above the ground. Make observations, learn how to identify key plants and animals that interact in those systems, and then compare and contrast what they need to survive, grow and reproduce successfully.

### **TREES, SEEDS, NUTS AND LEAVES**

September-November

1.5 hours

Autumn is a wonderful time to experience the leaves changing their colors and the bountiful seeds and nuts from our trees. Crunch and stomp along the trails as you learn about the changes this season brings to Retzer's plant communities.

### **MIGRATION/HIBERNATION: SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO?**

September-March

1.5 hours

Hit the trails at Retzer to see which animals stay, sleep or leave during winter. Learn about their special adaptations and strategies that help them to survive and search for their various forms of shelter and food sources. Fall will focus on departure and preparation; spring will focus on arrival and awakening.

### **WINTER TRACKS, SCAT AND OTHER WILD STUFF**

December-March

1.5 hours

2 hours with snowshoes (weather dependent) for an additional \$2.75 per person, 30 students maximum.

Animals leave behind a number of clues for us to find as we explore our winter world. Start indoors with a presentation on animal tracks and evidence of their adventures, and then head outdoors to hunt for some of these winter clues.

### **POND EXPLORATION**

May-June

1.5 hours

30 students maximum

Scoop up a net full of pond muck and pick your way through to discover the unusual and extraordinary ecosystem that is full of life. Learn about the adaptations and features they possess to live in this watery world.

### **WEB OF LIFE**

1 hour

Explore the grounds of Retzer during this seasonally focused program as we observe relationships between different plants and animals and their habitats. Make physical connections between living things within a common ecosystem and watch as a web of life emerges.

### **ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS (INDOOR)**

1 hour (1.5 hours with Create-a-Critter added)

Also available as an At-School Program

Enjoy a visit from the Retzer teaching animals! See how an animal's physical and behavioral traits can help it to survive as we explore the concepts of habitat and adaptation. Add on a craft where students create a critter with unique traits to illustrate how it will function and survive in its habitat.

GRADES 2-3

# Retzer Nature Center Programs continued

## AVIAN ADVENTURE

1.5 hour (2 hours with owl pellet dissection – add \$3 per pellet)

Also available as an At-School Program

Discover these feathered flyers from head to tail as we examine their adaptations and unique habits. A visit from our teaching bird and hands-on objects will assist in this exploration. Join our naturalists as we search for evidence of birds in their habitats.

## INVESTIGATE ART IN NATURE

September-November & March-June

1.5 hours

30 students maximum

Using observation skills and outdoor exploration, students will develop basic art skills. Through a variety of mixed media, students will discover an awareness of the many ecosystems around them and then create an art project that connects them with their experiences in nature.

## HOME SWEET HABITAT

1.5 hours

Explore wildlife habitats from the viewpoint of the animals that live there. Compare and contrast the different habitats observed. Students will play the role of an animal as they go in search of their animal's basic survival needs for food, water, shelter, and space. Decide which animal would call a given location "home sweet habitat".

## ANIMAL CLASSIFICATION

1.5 hours

Using observation skills and inquiry on a group exploration, students will cultivate their curiosity while hiking the trails of Retzer. Students will discuss organisms' different life cycles as well as what they have in common. We will discuss how to classify an animal by relating it to its habitat (ecosystem) and its unique physical and behavioral traits.

## NATURE EXPLORATION

1.5 hours (2 hours with Nature Collage added)

Using our powers of observation and sensory skills, we will have an in-depth scavenger experience collecting the natural treasures of the season. Naturalists will modify the exploration according to the season. Program will cover a sampling of the following topics: animal habitats, plant/tree/animal identification, plant and animal adaptations, food chain, predator-prey interactions.



## Planetarium Programs

To book the following Planetarium programs, call 262.970.6680. For program fees, see page 5.

## OUR PLACE IN SPACE

1 hour

This award-winning, participatory children's planetarium show introduces jungle animals and a space crossword puzzle to unravel the wonders and the mysteries of the universe.

## SECRET OF THE CARDBOARD ROCKET

1 hour

This children's fantasy begins in the backyard, where two children build a rocket out of a refrigerator box. The rocket becomes magical and blasts off, taking the children on a fantastic journey past the Sun, Moon and planets. They return home safely having learned wonderful facts about our solar system.

## 3-2-1 BLASTOFF

1 hour

This wonderful space adventure show transforms a space game into an exciting visual tour of the objects in our solar system. Audiences magically fly past the Sun, land on planets, fly through the rings of Saturn and return safely to Earth.

## HONEY, I SHRUNK THE SOLAR SYSTEM

1 hour

This solar system exploration show takes the audience on an imaginary bike ride past the Sun, Moon, and planets. Students help answer space questions along the way.

## A SOLAR SYSTEM ADVENTURE TOUR

1 hour

You won't believe how fun learning about the planets can be when you step aboard the "Star Traveler" spaceship on your interactive journey past the planets in our solar system.

## TIME BANDITS

1 hour

Our calendars and many of our methods of timekeeping are based on the motions of the Sun, Moon, and Earth. This fascinating show describes the astronomical reasons for modern-day timekeeping. It also presents many of the world's wonderful and elaborate mechanical clocks, and how they work.



## Recycling Programs

To book the following Recycling programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [recycling@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:recycling@waukeshacounty.gov). All Recycling programs are free.

### REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE

40 minutes

Available as an At-School Program

Find out what to recycle, where recyclables go and what they become. Do a recycling sort, a resource match, and play "Is This Recyclable?" See video clips of our recycling facility in action!

### RECYCLING ASSEMBLY

45 minutes

At-School Program **only**

Our high-energy recycling assemblies are sure to rev up your students to recycle more and recycle right! A lively recycling relay race along, group games, and a PowerPoint presentation. Available as an all school assembly for K-5.

### PAPERMAKING

45 minutes

Available as an At-School Program

Where does paper go after recycling it, and how does it become new paper? Learn the process and then make paper in the classroom. Students will create their own paper shape to take home.

### ROT IS HOT: COMPOSTING

30 minutes

Available as an At-School Program

Learn how nature's decomposers create compost. Discover the four critical components that help make compost happen and what goes in the bin through an all-class game. Observe compost microorganisms through magnifiers when seasonally available in spring/fall.

### COMPOSTING WITH WORMS: VERMICOMPOSTING!

30 minutes

Available as an At-School Program

Learn about nature's ultimate composters: worms! Students will observe and assess worm structure, behavior, and castings with the aid of magnifiers while also locating worm eggs and other decomposers that share their home and job duties.

## Water Resources Programs

To book the following Water Resources programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [water@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:water@waukeshacounty.gov). All Water Resources programs are free.

### WATER RESOURCES

45 minutes—60 with Q&A

At-School Program **only**

Discover the many aspects of water in this interactive PowerPoint program. Learn where drinking water comes from and where it goes after we are done with it. Students will learn what actions they can take to preserve and protect our water resources.

### I LIVE IN A WATERSHED

45 minutes

At-School Program **only**

1 class maximum

Our watershed model provides a hands-on, interactive demonstration of the sources and effects of runoff pollution. Students will learn about the watershed they live in and see how it connects...all the way to the ocean! By the end of this program, students will understand what a watershed is, how it functions and how they are part of it.

### SOILS—SAND, SILT AND CLAY

45 minutes

At-School Program **only**

1 class maximum

See a real soil profile and feel the difference between sand, silt and clay. Learn how soils are formed and how quickly they can erode.

### GET THE GROUNDWATER PICTURE

45 minutes

At-School Program **only**

1 class maximum

Learn how a well works and how activities above ground affect our drinking water supply. See how groundwater moves using a groundwater model that takes the guesswork out of groundwater.

## Environmental Health Program

To book the following Environmental Health programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov). All Environmental Health programs are free.

### ANIMAL BITE PREVENTION

50 minutes

At-School Program **only**

Find out about animal awareness, animal body language, and making wise choices while interacting with animals. Electricity and a clear wall for projection are required for this program.



## Pre-Packaged Programs

To book the following Retzer Nature Center Pre-Packaged programs, call 262.970.6680.  
For program fees, see page 5.

### SOILS AND THE ECOSYSTEMS THEY SUPPORT

March-November  
2.5 hours  
2 classes maximum

This unique program involves rotating students through three stations where they learn about soil, explore an ecosystem grown by that soil and discover composting and how it brings the two worlds together.

### LIFE IN THE WATER: A TALE OF TWO WATERBODIES

April-October  
1.5 hours  
2 classes maximum

Students will have the opportunity to explore who lives in the pond and who lives in the stream. A great study in compare and contrast to learn differences and similarities between two ecosystems.

# Grade 3



## Environmental Health Programs

To book the following Environmental Health programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov). All Environmental Health programs are free.

### HUMANE ANIMAL EDUCATION

50 minutes  
At-School Program **only**

Learn the legal definitions of humane and cruel behavior as they relate to animals. Specific case studies show how humane officers apply the laws. Electricity and a clear wall for projection are required for this program.

### HUMANE ANIMAL CAREERS

25 minutes  
At-School Program **only**

Explore various careers that involve animals and the preparation required for each career. Electricity and a clear wall for projection are required for this program.



# Grades 4-5

## Retzer Nature Center Programs

To book the following Retzer Nature Center programs, call 262.970.6680. For program fees, see page 5.

### GO FIGURE! MATH IN NATURE

*September-November & March-June*

*1.5 hours*

Discover the connections between math and nature as we hike the trails. Work through a variety of math concepts and find real examples in the natural world. Symmetry, shapes, patterns, sequences will all be observed as we search and measure our way through the forest and prairies.

### INSECT INVESTIGATION

*September-October & May-June*

*1.5 hours*

Join the naturalists as we use sweep nets in the meadow, roll logs in the forest, and flip over rocks in search of insects. We will investigate their many adaptations that help support their survival, growth, behavior and reproduction. We will discuss their important roles in the environment, such as pollination.

### OVER AND UNDER THE SOIL

*September-October & April-June*

*1.5 hours*

Explore the diverse ecosystems at Retzer and understand how the soils under the ground support the unique plant communities above the ground. Make observations, learn how to identify key plants and animals that interact in those systems, and then compare and contrast what they need to survive, grow and reproduce successfully.

### MIGRATION/HIBERNATION: SHOULD I STAY OR SHOULD I GO?

*Available September-March*

*1.5 hours*

Hit the trails to see who you can find. Find out which animals at Retzer stay, sleep or leave during winter. Learn about their special adaptations and strategies that help them to survive and search for their various forms of shelter and food sources. Fall will focus on departure and preparation; spring will focus on arrival and awakening.

### WINTER TRACKS, SCAT AND OTHER WILD STUFF

*December-March*

*1.5 hours*

*2 hours with snowshoes (weather dependent) for an additional \$2.75 per person, 30 students maximum.*

Animals leave behind a number of clues for us to find as we explore our winter world. Start indoors with a presentation on animal tracks and evidence of their adventures, and then head outdoors to hunt for some of these winter clues.

### POND EXPLORATION

*May-June*

*1.5 hours*

*30 students maximum*

Scoop up a net full of pond muck and pick your way through to discover the unusual and extraordinary ecosystem that is full of life. Students investigate pond ecology through interactive observation, temperature readings, and an in-depth study of aquatic organisms.

### WEB OF LIFE

*1 hour*

Explore the grounds of Retzer during this seasonally-focused program as we observe relationships between different plants and animals and their habitats. Make physical connections between living things within a common ecosystem and watch as a web of life emerges.

### ANIMAL ADAPTATIONS (INDOOR)

*1 hour (1.5 hours with Create-a-Critter added)*

*Also available as an At-School Program*

Enjoy a visit from the Retzer teaching animals! See how an animal's physical and behavioral traits can help it to survive as we explore the concepts of habitat and adaptation. You can add on a craft where students will create a critter with unique traits to illustrate how their critter will function and survive in its habitat.

### AVIAN ADVENTURE

*1.5 hour (2 hours with owl pellet dissection – add \$3 per pellet)*

*Also available as an At-School Program*

Discover these feathered flyers from head to tail as we examine their adaptations and unique habits. A visit from our teaching bird and hands-on objects will assist in this exploration. Join our naturalists as we search for evidence of birds in their habitats.



## Retzer Nature Center Programs continued

### INVESTIGATE ART IN NATURE

September-November & March-June

1.5 hours

30 students maximum

Using observation skills and outdoor exploration, students will develop basic art skills. Through a variety of mixed media, students will discover an awareness of the many ecosystems around them and then create an art project that connects them with their experiences in nature.

### HOME SWEET HABITAT

1.5 hours

Explore wildlife habitats from the viewpoint of the animals that live there. Compare and contrast the different habitats observed. Students will play the role of an animal as they go in search of their animal's basic survival needs for food, water, shelter, and space. Decide which animal would call a given location "home sweet habitat".

### ANIMAL CLASSIFICATION

1.5 hours

Using observation skills and inquiry on a group exploration, students will cultivate their curiosity while hiking the trails of Retzer. Students will discuss organisms' different life cycles as well as what they have in common. We will discuss how to classify an animal by relating it to its habitat (ecosystem) and its unique physical and behavioral traits.

### NATURE EXPLORATION

1.5 hours (2 hours with Nature Collage added)

Using our powers of observation and sensory skills, we will have an in-depth scavenger experience collecting the natural treasures of the season. Naturalists will modify the exploration according to the season. This program will cover a sampling of the following topics: animal habitats, plant/tree/animal identification, plant and animal adaptations, food chain, predator-prey interactions.

### WILDERNESS EXPLORERS

1.5 hours

In this creative program, students assume the roles of early Wisconsin explorers, experiencing the wilderness for the very first time. How would your group survive and flourish in the woods and prairies of Wisconsin?

### GEOTHERMAL HEATING & COOLING - ENERGY FROM THE EARTH!

Contact Retzer for a custom program.

Discover how we can use energy from the earth to heat and cool our homes and workplaces while conserving the Earth's resources and environment.



## Planetarium Programs

To book the following Planetarium programs, call 262.970.6680. For program fees, see page 5.

### SECRET OF THE CARDBOARD ROCKET

1 hour

This children's fantasy begins in the backyard, where two children build a rocket out of a refrigerator box. The rocket becomes magical and blasts off, taking the children on a fantastic journey past the Sun, Moon and planets. They return home safely having learned wonderful facts about our solar system.

### 3-2-1 BLASTOFF

1 hour

This wonderful space adventure transforms a space game into an exciting visual tour of our solar system. Audiences magically fly past the Sun, land on planets, fly through the rings of Saturn and return safely to Earth.

### HONEY, I SHRUNK THE SOLAR SYSTEM

1 hour

This solar system exploration show takes the audience on an imaginary bike ride past the Sun, Moon, and planets. Students help answer space questions along the way.

### A SOLAR SYSTEM ADVENTURE TOUR

1 hour

You won't believe how fun learning about the planets can be when you step aboard the "Star Traveler" spaceship on your interactive journey past the planets in our solar system.

## Planetarium Programs continued

### TIME BANDITS

1 hour

Our calendars and many methods of timekeeping are based on the motions of the sun, moon, and earth. This fascinating show describes the astronomical reasons for modern-day timekeeping. It also presents many of the world's wonderful and elaborate mechanical clocks, and how they work.

### NINE PLANETS AND COUNTING

1 hour

See the most current images of the Sun, Moon, and planets in our Solar System. Find out why Pluto is now a "dwarf planet". This very beautiful show investigates the formation and the composition of our neighbors in space.

### STARSHIP EARTH

1 hour

This fast-paced astronomy presentation uses spectacular visuals to answer questions about our home planet, Earth. Views of Earth from space, reasons for the seasons, and Earth's place in the universe are explored.

### EXPLORERS OF INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

1 hour

This program shows science research being done on the International Space Station. Communication, medical technology, and life aboard the space station are just some of the topics in this spectacular visual presentation.

### SPACE ALIENS "LOOKING FOR LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE"

1 hour

Join our "experts," Hopeful and Skeptical as they try to convince each other whether or not life exists on other planets in outer space. Follow their astrobiology arguments from the ocean floor to a journey across the galaxy. This fantastic new program is produced by the Daniel Soref Planetarium at the Milwaukee Public Museum.

### COSMIC COLORS

1 hour

Sit back and explore how colors form a rainbow, create a red surface on Mars, and display the breathtaking northern lights. In this program, audiences learn how scientists use wavelengths of the electromagnetic spectrum to study the wonderful mysteries of deep space.

## Recycling Programs

To book the following Recycling programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [recycling@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:recycling@waukeshacounty.gov). All Recycling programs are free.

### RECYCLING REALLY MATTERS

40 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

Learn what to recycle, where recyclables go and what they become. Do a recycling sort, a resource match, and play "Is This Recyclable?" See a video of our recycling facility in action. Find out why it really matters!

### RECYCLING ASSEMBLY

45 minutes

At-School Program **only**

Our high-energy recycling assemblies are sure to rev up your students to recycle more and recycle right! A lively recycling relay race along with group games and PowerPoint images have been a hit! Available as an all school assembly for K-5.

### PAPERMAKING

45 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

Where does paper go after putting it in the recycling cart, and how does it get turned into new paper? Learn the process and then make paper right in the classroom. Students will create their own paper shape to take home.

### ROT IS HOT: COMPOSTING

30 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

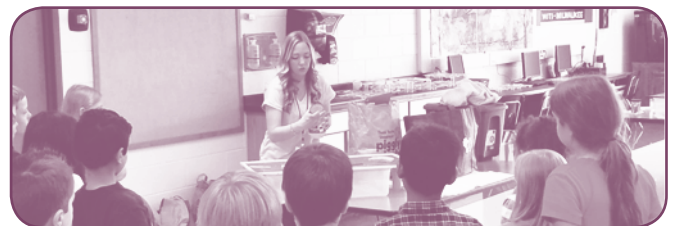
Learn how nature's decomposers create compost. Discover the four critical components that help make compost happen and what goes in the bin through a class game. Observe compost microorganisms through magnifiers when seasonally available in spring/fall.

### COMPOSTING WITH WORMS: VERMICOMPOSTING

45 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

Learn about nature's ultimate composters: worms! Students will observe and assess worm anatomy, behavior, and castings with the aid of magnifiers while also locating worm eggs and other decomposers that share their home and job duties.





## Water Resources Programs

To book the following Water Resources programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [water@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:water@waukeshacounty.gov). All Water Resources programs are free.

### **WATER RESOURCES**

45 minutes—60 with Q&A  
At-School Program **only**

Discover the many aspects of water in the interactive power point program. Learn where drinking water comes from and where it goes after we are done with it. Students will learn what actions they can take to preserve and protect our water resources.

### **SOILS—SAND, SILT AND CLAY**

45 minutes  
At-School Program **only**  
1 class maximum

See a real soil profile and feel the difference between sand, silt and clay. Learn how soils are formed and how quickly they can erode.

### **I LIVE IN A WATERSHED**

45 minutes  
At-School Program **only**  
1 class maximum

Our watershed model provides a hands-on, interactive demonstration of the sources and effects of runoff pollution. Students will learn about the watershed they live in and see how it connects...all the way to the ocean! By the end of this program, students will understand what a watershed is, how it functions and how they are part of it.

### **GET THE GROUNDWATER PICTURE**

45 minutes  
At-School Program **only**  
1 class maximum

Learn how a well works and how activities above ground affect our drinking water supply. See how groundwater moves using a groundwater model that takes the guesswork out of groundwater.

## Environmental Health Programs

To book the following Environmental Health programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov). All Environmental Health programs are free.

### **ANIMAL BITE PREVENTION**

50 minutes  
At-School Program **only**

Find out about animal awareness, animal body language, and making wise choices while interacting with animals. Electricity and a clear wall for projection are required for this program.

### **HUMANE ANIMAL EDUCATION**

50 minutes  
At-School Program **only**

Learn the legal definitions of humane and cruel behavior as they relate to animals. Specific case studies show how humane officers apply the laws. Electricity and a clear wall for projection are required for this program.

### **HUMANE ANIMAL CAREERS**

25 minutes  
At-School Program **only**

Explore various careers that involve animals and the preparation required for each career. Electricity and a clear wall for projection are required for this program.

### **FOOD SAFETY**

30-60 minutes  
At-School Program **only**

Become aware of food safety and the consequences of mishandling food. Hand washing emphasized and interactive activities are available.

## Pre-Packaged Programs

To book the following Retzer Nature Center Pre-Packaged programs, call 262.970.6680. For program fees, see page 5.

### **SOILS AND THE ECOSYSTEMS THEY SUPPORT**

March-November  
2.5 hours  
2 classes maximum

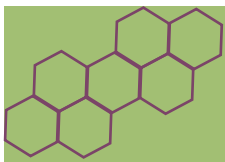
This unique program involves rotating students through three stations where they learn about soil, explore an ecosystem grown by that soil and discover composting and how it brings the two worlds together.

### **LIFE IN THE WATER: TALE OF TWO WATERBODIES**

April-October  
1.5 hours  
2 classes maximum

Students will have the opportunity to explore who lives in the pond and who lives in the stream. A great study in compare and contrast to learn differences and similarities between two ecosystems.





# Grade 5

## Environmental Health Program

To book the following Environmental Health programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov). All Environmental Health programs are free.

### **DRINKING WATER**

30-60 minutes

At-School Program **only**

Learn about where you get your water, what can be harmful in the water, and how to eliminate the dangers. Also, find out what to search for at home to keep your water safe.

## Recycling Program

To book the following Recycling program, call 262.896.8300 or email [recycling@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:recycling@waukeshacounty.gov). All Recycling programs are free.

### **MRF TOUR**

1 hour

Location: City of Milwaukee/Waukesha County Recycling Facility (MRF)—1401 W Mount Vernon Ave., Milwaukee

Observe the fascinating combination of physics, technology and people sorting and baling mixed recyclables before heading to market. Learn details of what can be recycled, why some things cannot, what companies buy each commodity and what they will become. Can be combined with other programming/field trip destinations for large groups. Contact our office for details.

GRADE 5

# Grade 6

## Environmental Health Program

To book the following Environmental Health programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov). All Environmental Health programs are free.

### **ANIMAL BITE PREVENTION**

50 minutes

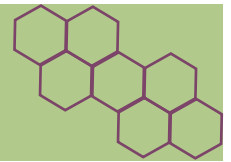
At-School Program **only**

Find out about animal awareness, animal body language, and making wise choices while interacting with animals. Electricity and a clear wall for projection are required for this program.



GRADE 6

# Grades 6-8



## Retzer Nature Center Programs

To book the following Retzer Nature Center programs, call 262.970.6680. For program fees, see page 5.

### EXPLORING THE PRAIRIE

September-October  
1.5 hours

A visit to the prairie underground is included. Customize a prairie program to fit your curriculum requirements. Select up to 3 activities per program from the following options: Prairie Plant Design, Seed Dispersal, Roots, Prairie Wildlife, Soils, or Prairie Plant Adaptations.

### WINTER TRACKS, SCAT AND OTHER WILD STUFF

December-March  
1.5 hours

2 hours, add snowshoes (weather dependent) for an additional \$2.75 per person, 30 student maximum.

Animals leave behind a number of clues for us to find as we explore our winter world. Start indoors with a presentation on animal tracks and evidence of their adventures, and then head outdoors to hunt for some of these winter clues.

### FOREST ECOLOGY

1.5 hours

Through this interactive program, students will learn how to recognize and describe characteristics that differentiate trees. Students will hike through the forest and oak savanna habitats and identify a variety of Wisconsin trees. Emphasis will be on the immense value trees bring to our ecosystem. A great way to learn how to use a dichotomous key!

### WILDERNESS EXPLORERS

1.5 hours

In this creative program, students assume the roles of early Wisconsin explorers, experiencing the wilderness for the very first time. How would your group survive and flourish in the woods and prairies of Wisconsin?

### READING THE LANDSCAPE

2 hours

Learn to read the lands of Retzer as students work in teams to investigate the local ecosystem. Students will use field equipment and observations to uncover the fascinating relationships within our environment.

### WEB OF LIFE

1 hour

Explore the grounds of Retzer during this seasonally focused program as we observe relationships between different plants and animals and their habitats. Make physical connections between living things within a common ecosystem and watch as a web of life emerges.

### AVIAN ADVENTURE

1.5 hours (2 hours with owl pellet dissection – add \$3 per pellet)

Also available as an At-School Program

Discover these feathered flyers from head to tail as we examine their adaptations and unique habits. A visit from our teaching bird and hands-on objects will assist in this exploration. Join our naturalists as we search for evidence of birds in their habitats.

### SCIENCE IN NATURE

2.5 hours

Students discover nature using the scientific method, reasoning, data collection and experimentation to answer some of the questions we have about nature. Current issues will be taken into consideration. Service learning components can be added if desired. Choose one from the following topics:

**Mammal Survival** (Year Round)

**Gifts of the Glacier** (Year Round)

**Dealing with Invasive Species** (September-October & March-June)

**Water & Soil Chemistry** (September-October & April-June)

**Forest Ecology** (September-October & May-June)

**Pollinators and the Prairie** (September-October & May-June)

**Life in Winter** (November-March)

### CREATE ART IN NATURE

September-November & March-June

1.5 hours

30 students maximum

Bridge the gap between the creative art processes and observations of the natural world around us. Through a variety of media, students will create a personalized, reflective art piece to help understand the ecosystems, habitats, and adaptations of life at Retzer. Art projects will vary with the season and supplies will be provided.

### GEOTHERMAL HEATING & COOLING - ENERGY FROM THE EARTH!

Contact Retzer for a custom program.

Discover how we can use energy from the earth to heat and cool our homes and workplaces while conserving the Earth's resources and environment.

# Planetarium Programs

To book the following Planetarium programs, call 262.970.6680. For program fees, see page 5.

## TIME BANDITS

1 hour

Our calendars and many of our methods of timekeeping are based on the motions of the sun, moon, and earth. This fascinating show describes the astronomical reasons for modern-day timekeeping. It also presents many of the world's wonderful and elaborate mechanical clocks, and how they work.

## NINE PLANETS AND COUNTING

1 hour

See the most current images of the sun, moon, and planets in our solar system. Find out why Pluto is now a "dwarf planet". This very beautiful show investigates the formation and the composition of our neighbors in space.

## STARSHIP EARTH

1 hour

This fast-paced astronomy presentation uses spectacular visuals to answer questions about our home planet, Earth. Views of Earth from space, reasons for the seasons, and Earth's place in the universe are explored.

## EXPLORERS OF INTERNATIONAL SPACE STATION

1 hour

This program shows science research being done on the International Space Station. Communication, medical technology, and life aboard the space station are just some of the topics in this spectacular visual presentation.

## SPACE ALIENS "LOOKING FOR LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE"

1 hour

Join our "experts," Hopeful and Skeptical as they try to convince each other whether or not life exists on other planets in outer space. Follow their astrobiology arguments from the ocean floor to a journey across the galaxy. This fantastic new program is produced by the Daniel Soref Planetarium at the Milwaukee Public Museum.

## COSMIC COLORS

1 hour

Sit back and explore how colors form a rainbow, create a red surface on Mars, and display the breathtaking northern lights. In this program, audiences learn how scientists use wavelengths of the electromagnetic spectrum to study the wonderful mysteries of deep space.

## GALILEO

1 hour

Recognized as one of the greatest scientists of all time, this show celebrates the astronomical contributions of Galileo. Brilliantly produced as a 400-year historical view of the world's greatest telescopes, this program is a "must-see" for middle and high school students.

## THE WILD WORLD OF WEATHER

1 hour

Experience our amazing world of weather as you ride out a thunderstorm, fall into a tornado, and view storms from space. This program studies the dynamics of the water cycle, cloud types, lightning and auroras. This program meets many of the goals and objectives of state and national science education standards.

## VOYAGE TO THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE

1 hour

This spectacular sky show presents close-up views of the sun, moon and planets, then takes the audience into deep space to explore white dwarfs, neutron stars, and black holes. Also in this program, scientists explore some of the most current trends in human and robotic space exploration. This program meets state and national science education standards.

## BLACK HOLES, POINT OF NO RETURN

1 hour

Scientists explain how stars are born, live out their lives, and die. Some of the most fascinating theories that astronomers develop are those involving the explosive deaths of massive stars. This program explores some of the strangest theoretical objects in the universe: white dwarfs, neutron stars, quasars, and black holes.

## THE STARGAZER

1 hour

Nichelle Nichols (Lt. Uhura of the television series Star Trek) narrates this fascinating program about stars. "Stargazer" traces the life experiences of astronomy professor Dr. James Kaler. From childhood to adult, his love for the sky shows us that there is a "human" connection to the stars.

## Recycling Programs

To book the following Recycling program, call 262.896.8300 or email [recycling@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:recycling@waukeshacounty.gov). All Recycling programs are free.

### RECYCLING REALLY MATTERS

40 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

Learn what to recycle, where recyclables go and what they become. Do a recycling sort, a resource match, and play "Is This Recyclable?" See a video of our recycling facility in action. Find out why it really matters!

### COMPOST 101

45 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

What happens to organic material, like food waste, in a landfill vs. decomposition in nature? Learn how decomposers create compost with four critical components. Observe compost microorganisms through magnifiers & microscopes when seasonally available in spring/fall. Understand the role compost plays in the waste hierarchy.

### COMPOSTING WITH WORMS: VERMICOMPOSTING

45 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

Learn about nature's composters: worms! Students will observe, assess and discuss worm anatomy and behavior using magnifiers and microscopes, along with locating worm eggs and other decomposers that share their home and job duties.

Considering composting at school? Contact our office for information: 262-896-8300

### MRF TOUR

1 hour

Location: City of Milwaukee/Waukesha County Recycling Facility (MRF)—1401 W Mount Vernon Ave., Milwaukee

Observe the fascinating combination of physics, technology and people sorting and baling mixed recyclables before heading to market. Learn details of what can be recycled, why some things cannot, what companies buy each commodity and what they will become. Can be combined with other programming/field trip destinations for large groups.

## Water Resources Programs

To book the following Water Resources programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [water@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:water@waukeshacounty.gov). All Water Resources programs are free.

### WATER RESOURCES

45 minutes—60 with Q&A

At-School Program **only**

Discover the many aspects of water in an interactive program. Learn where drinking water comes from and where it goes after we are done with it. Students will learn what actions they can take to preserve and protect our water resources.

### I LIVE IN A WATERSHED

45 minutes

At-School Program **only**

1 class maximum

Our watershed model provides a hands-on, interactive demonstration of the sources and effects of runoff pollution. Students will learn about the watershed they live in and see how it connects...all the way to the ocean! By the end of this program, students will understand what a watershed is, how it functions and how they are part of it.

### SOILS—SAND, SILT AND CLAY

45 minutes

At-School Program **only**

1 class maximum

See a real soil profile and feel the difference between sand, silt and clay. Learn how soils are formed and how quickly they can erode.

### GET THE GROUNDWATER PICTURE

45 minutes

At-School Program **only**

1 class maximum

Learn how a well works and what activities above ground affect our drinking water supply. See how groundwater moves using a groundwater model that takes the guesswork out of groundwater.

### MONITORING FOR WATER QUALITY

90 minutes

Location: At your school stream/pond or other local stream

1 class maximum

Students will measure turbidity, dissolved oxygen, temperature and calculate a biotic index from making a macro-invertebrate collection.





## Environmental Health Programs

To book the following Environmental Health programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:humaneofficer@waukeshacounty.gov). All Environmental Health programs are free.

### HUMANE ANIMAL EDUCATION

50 minutes

At-School Program **only**

Learn the legal definitions of humane and cruel behavior as they relate to animals. Specific case studies show how humane officers apply the laws. Electricity and a clear wall for projection are required for this program.

### HUMANE ANIMAL CAREERS

25 minutes

At-School Program **only**

Explore various careers that involve animals and the preparation required for each career. Electricity and a clear wall for projection are required for this program.

### FOOD SAFETY

30-60 minutes

At-School Program **only**

Become aware of food safety and the consequences of mishandling food. Hand washing emphasized and interactive activities are available.

### DRINKING WATER

30-60 minutes

At-School Program **only**

Learn about where you get your water, what can be harmful in the water, and how to eliminate the dangers. Also, find out what to search for at home to keep your water safe.

## Pre-Packaged Programs

To book the following Retzer Nature Center Pre-Packaged programs, call 262.970.6680. For program fees, see page 5.

### SOILS AND THE ECOSYSTEMS THEY SUPPORT

March-November

2.5 hours

2 classes maximum

This unique program involves rotating students through three stations where they learn about soil, explore an ecosystem grown by that soil and discover composting and how it brings the two worlds together.

### LIFE IN THE WATER: A TALE OF TWO WATERBODIES

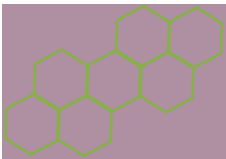
April-October

1.5 hours

2 classes maximum

Students will have the opportunity to explore who lives in the pond and who lives in the stream. A great study in compare and contrast to learn differences and similarities between two ecosystems.

GRADES 6-8



# Grades 9-10

## Environmental Health Program

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### HUMANE ANIMAL EDUCATION

50 minutes

At-School Program **only**

Learn the legal definitions of humane and cruel behavior as they relate to animals. Specific case studies show how humane officers apply the laws. Electricity and a clear wall for projection are required for this program.

### HUMANE ANIMAL CAREERS

25 minutes

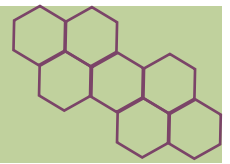
At-School Program **only**

Explore various careers that involve animals and the preparation required for each career. Electricity and a clear wall for projection are required for this program.

GRADES 9-10



# Grades 9-12



## Retzer Nature Center Programs

Programs for grades 9-12 can be adapted from all grades 6-8 programs. Please call for more information, 262.970.6680. For program fees, see page 5.

## Planetarium Programs

To book the following Planetarium programs, call 262.970.6680. For program fees, see page 5.

### SPACE ALIENS

#### "LOOKING FOR LIFE IN THE UNIVERSE"

1 hour

Join our "experts," Hopeful and Skeptical as they try to convince each other whether or not life exists on other planets in outer space. Follow their astrobiology arguments from the ocean floor to a journey across the galaxy. This fantastic new program is produced by the Daniel Soref Planetarium at the Milwaukee Public Museum.

### COSMIC COLORS

1 hour

Sit back and explore how colors form a rainbow, create a red surface on Mars, and display the breathtaking northern lights. In this program, audiences learn how scientists use wavelengths of the electromagnetic spectrum to study the wonderful mysteries of deep space.

### GALILEO

1 hour

Recognized as one of the greatest scientists of all time, this show celebrates the astronomical contributions of Galileo. Brilliantly produced as a 400-year historical view of the world's greatest telescopes, this program is a "must-see" for middle and high school students.

### THE WILD WORLD OF WEATHER

1 hour

Experience our amazing world of weather as you ride out a thunderstorm, fall into a tornado, and view storms from space. This program studies the dynamics of the water cycle, cloud types, lightning and auroras. This program meets many of the goals and objectives of state and national science education standards.

### VOYAGE TO THE EDGE OF THE UNIVERSE

1 hour

This spectacular sky show presents close-up views of the Sun, Moon and planets, then takes the audience into deep space to explore white dwarfs, neutron stars, and black holes. Also in this program, scientists explore some of the most current trends in human and robotic space exploration. This program meets state and national science education standards.

### BLACK HOLES, POINT OF NO RETURN

1 hour

Scientists explain how stars are born, live out their lives, and die. Some of the most fascinating theories that astronomers develop are those involving the explosive deaths of massive stars. This program explores some of the strangest theoretical objects in the universe: white dwarfs, neutron stars, quasars, and black holes.

### THE STARGAZER

1 hour

Nichelle Nichols (Lt. Uhura of the television series Star Trek) narrates this fascinating program about stars. "Stargazer" traces the life experiences of astronomy professor Dr. James Kaler. From childhood to adult, his love for the sky shows us that there is a "human" connection to the stars.

## Recycling Programs

To book the following Recycling program, call 262.896.8300 or email [recycling@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:recycling@waukeshacounty.gov). All Recycling programs are free.

### RECYCLING 101

40 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

Understand the recycling process and its relationship to natural resources, pollution prevention and energy savings. Compare landfilling to recycling. Find out how Wisconsin's recycling law works, and the importance of reducing waste.

### COMPOST 101

45 minutes

Also available as an At-School Program

What happens to organic material, like food waste, in a landfill vs. decomposition in nature? Learn how decomposers create compost with four critical components. Observe compost microorganisms through magnifiers & microscopes when seasonally available in spring/fall. Understand the role compost plays in the waste hierarchy.

### MRF Tour

1 hour

Location: City of Milwaukee/Waukesha County Recycling Facility (MRF)—1401 W Mount Vernon Ave., Milwaukee

Observe the fascinating combination of physics, technology and people sorting and baling mixed recyclables before heading to market. Learn details of what can be recycled, why some things cannot, what companies buy each commodity and what they will become. Can be combined with other programming/field trip destinations for large groups. Contact our office for details.

## Water Resources Programs

To book the following Water Resources programs, call 262.896.8300 or email [water@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:water@waukeshacounty.gov). All Recycling programs are free.

### WATER RESOURCES

45 minutes—60 with Q&A

At-School Program **only**

Discover the many aspects of water in the interactive power point program. Learn where drinking water comes from and where it goes after we are done with it. Students will learn what actions they can take to preserve and protect our water resources.

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# Fundraising Expectations with Environmental Education



Waukesha County Educators provide seasonal programs that raise funds for your school while students actively explore nature! Whether it's snowshoeing, hiking, pond critters or papermaking, choose your activities for fundraising fun!



To learn more and book a fundraiser at Retzer Nature Center email [recycling@waukeshacounty.gov](mailto:recycling@waukeshacounty.gov).

# CONNECT WITH US!



County Executive - Paul Farrow  
*@CountyExecutivePaulFarrow*

Retzer Nature Center  
*@RetzerNatureCenter*

UW-Extension  
*@WUExtWaukesha*

Waukesha County Parks  
*@WaukeshaCountyParks*

Waukesha County Recycles  
*@WaukeshaCountyRecycles*



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*@uwexhortinfo*

Waukesha County Parks  
*@WaukeshaCoParks*

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Waukesha County Web Videos

Waukesha UWEX





**Waukesha County  
Department of  
Parks and Land Use**

**Retzer Nature Center  
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